

AMENDMENT

In the Specification

On page 1, after the title, please insert

-- **Priority Information**

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to U.S. Application Serial Number 09/641,835, filed August 18, 2000, now ^{US Patent No. 6,406,612} ~~allowed~~. The entire contents of the parent application are expressly incorporated herein by reference. --

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-20 ~~without prejudice or disclaimer of the~~ subject matter thereof.

Please add the following claims:

21. A method for preparing expandable graphite flake exhibiting one or more improved exfoliation characteristics, which comprises:

- (a) contacting graphite flake with an organic expansion aid;
- (b) subjecting said graphite flake to an electrolytic oxidation treatment with an aqueous intercalant solution comprising 10-75% sulfuric acid to provide intercalated graphite flake; and